Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 /093 W

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7604

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL MUNICH

CONFIDENTIAL WARSAW 2605

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT PL

SUBJ: LATEST ACTIVITY OF THE WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE

REF: (A) WARSAW 1246, (B) SUMMERS MEMCON OF MARCH 14 (NOTAL), (C) BRAINARD MEMCON OF MARCH 30 (NOTAL), (D) SUMMERS MEMCON OF MARCH 17 (NOTAL), (E) WARSAW 1626

1. SUMMARY: THE WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE (WDL) HAS ISSUED AN EIGHTH COMMUNIQUE SUMMARIZING ITS ACTIVITIES DURING MARCH. THE WDL HAS ALSO PUBLICIZED A LETTER SENT ON APRIL 11 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, HENRYK JABLONSKI, CALLING FOR PARDON OF THE WORKERS STILL IMPRISONED FOR THEIR PART IN THE JUNE, 1976, PRICE-RISE DEMONSTRATIONS. END SUMMARY.

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2. COMMUNIQUE NO. 8 SUMMARIZES RECENT EVENTS RELATED TO THE JUNE DISTURBANCES. THESE INCLUDE REPORTS THAT (A) "PSYCHOLOGICAL TERROR RATED" IN RADOM FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL OF STATE'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF A CONDITIONAL AMNESTY FEBRUARY 3. POLICE SURVEILLANCE, INTERROGATIONS, FINES, AND THREATS WERE USED TO COW PEOPLE INTO SILENCE ABOUT THE JUNE EVENTS; (B) CZESLAW CHOMICKI, A WORKER WHO BELIEVES HE WAS IMPRISONED SOLELY BECAUSE HE HAD A PREVIOUS

POLICE RECORD, IS CONDUCTING A HUMGER STRIKE (REF B); (C) FORMER DEMONSTRATORS ARE WITHOUT JOBS IN GRUDZIADZ, GDANSK, LODZ, AND PLOCK; POLICE SURVEILLANCE CONTINUES; (D) A POTENTIAL STRIKE IN LODZ ON FEBRUARY 25 WAS AVERTED WHEN AUTHORITIES RESUMED SALE OF A CHEAP VARIETY OF BREAD THAT HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM THE MARKET (REF C); (E) SECRET POLICE POSED AS WDL MEMBERS IN LODZ TO BREAK UP THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE WDL AND THE WORKERS; THE MAN WHO BEAT UP OBSERVERS AT A RADOM TRIAL JANUARY 10 SAID HE WAS PAID BY THE SECRET POLICE; STUDENTS AND ACTORS IN POZNAN FOUND WITH WDL DOCUMENTS WERE BEATEN ON THE STREET AND LATER HELD BY POLICE; (F) IN WARSAW, TEACHERS WHO SYMPATHIZED WITH WDL ACTIVITIES WERE MOVED TO OTHER SCHOOLS, DESPITE ORGANIZED STUDENT PROTESTS (REF D). A. CELINSKI UNSUCCESSFULLY PROTESTED THAT WARSAW UNIVERSITY FIRED HIM FOR EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE WDL.

4. THE COMMUNIQUE REPORTS THAT FOUR SUPPORTERS OF THE WDL, JAN LITYNSKI, S. BLUMSZTAJN, M. GRUDZINSKI, AND J. SZCZESNA, WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY ON MARCH 3 AND HELD FOR FORTY HOURS (REF E). AN APPEAL BY ANTONI PAJDAK, EMIL MORGIEWICZ, ANTONI MACIEREWICZ, AND WOJCIECH ZIEMBINSKI OF THEIR CONVICTION FOR ILLEGAL COLLECTION OF FUNDS WAS REJECTED. THE COMMUNIQUE REPORTS AN EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES WITH THE CHARTER 77 GROUP ON THE DEATH OF JAN PATOCKA. IT ALSO SAYS THE WDL HAS RECEIVED A LETTER CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION INTO PRACTICES OF THE MENTAL HOSPITAL IN GNIEZNO. A TOTAL OF 998 PEOPLE HAVE REPORTEDLY VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION TO THE WDL, AND 557 PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED HELP AMOUNTING TO 2,344,730 ZLOTIES.

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- 5. THE COMMUNIQUE REPORTS THAT 2,088 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED PETITIONS CALLING FOR A SEJM COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE JUNE EVENTS AND CONTENDS THAT THE SEJM DELEGATES HAVE A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO DO SO. ALSO, MORE THAN TWENTY WORKERS ARE STILL IN JAIL. THE SIGNERS CONTEND THAT SOCIAL STABILITY IN POLAND IS THREATENED BY THIS FACT.
- 6. THE LETTER FROM THE WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE TO COUNCIL OF STATE PRESIDENT HENRYK JABLONSKI, DATED APRIL 11, REFERS TO CZESLAW CHOMICKI, WHOSE HUNGER STRIKE CONTINUES. THE LETTER SAYS CHOMICKI'S HEALTH, AND PERHAPS HIS LIFE, ARE IN DANGER. IT ASKS JABLONSKI TO AVERT THE CONSEQUENCES OF FURTHER DELAY IN THE FULL REALIZATION OF THE AMNESTY ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 3.
- 7. THE EMBASSY IS FORWARDING THE TWO DOCUMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT, ATTENTION EUR/EE, ALAN THOMPSON. DAVIES

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